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Lord Vis. CLARE's Conduct

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REPRESENTATIVE

O F
B R I S T O L.

Virtutem incolumem odimus,
Sublatam ex oculis quærimus invidi.

By J O S I A H T U C K E R, D.D.

Dean of Gloucester, and Rector of St. Stephen's in Bristol.

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TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE

Lord Viscount CLARE,



THIS Review of your Lordship's Conduct,
during a Representation in Parliament of
Twenty Years,---a Period happily distinguished
in the Annals of the City of Bristol,---is respect-
fully dedicated, in Testimony of a grateful Sense
both of public Benefits, and private Favours,

By your Lordship's

Most obliged

And most obedient,

Humble Servant,

JOSIAH TUCKER.



A
R E V I E W

O F

Lord CLARE's Conduct, &c.



BEFORE Mr. NUGENT, now Lord Viscount CLARE, was chosen to represent the City of *Bristol*, it was a general Complaint among the Citizens, that they had not a Friend to whom they could apply for obtaining any Favour from the great Officers of State:—That a commercial City, such as theirs, stood in continual Need of the Interposition and Assistance sometimes of the Treasury, sometimes of the Board of Trade, and sometimes of the Commissioners of the Customs, and the Excise, &c. &c. to moderate and mitigate the *Letter* of the Law in contingent Cases:---That, more especially during the Time of War, they were subject to great Distress for Want of regular Convoys, and of other beneficial Protections:---And lastly, that in the Disposal of Government-Places, belonging to their Port and City, it was hard and grating to them to see such Numbers of Strangers preferred; whilst several of their own Tradesmen, reduced by Misfortunes, wanted Bread. Add to all this, that the City of *Bristol* was at that Juncture, and had been for some Time past, miserably distracted by the opposite Factions of Whig
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and Tory :-- That the Tories being then the superior Power, ruled over them without Moderation, not permitting them to have the least Influence in the Choice of Representatives. These were Evils had enough : But it is greatly to be feared, that by running at present into an opposite Extreme, we shall bring on still greater : It being apparent to every thinking, considerate Man, that *Republican* Whiggism is fraught with more mischievous Consequences, even than monarchical Toryism. Indeed, to speak the Truth, moderate Whigs and moderate Tories, as RAPIN has justly observed, are the best Friends to the Constitution both in Church and State; nay, that they both mean the same Thing, tho' they express themselves differently : Whereas *Republican* Whiggism is the sworn Enemy of both Parts of the Constitution. It has already produced the worst of Tyranny in these Kingdoms ; and is now incessantly at work to produce the like again. A known Fact it is, that the Tyranny of a Republican Government is of all others the most oppressive, the most intolerable ; and surely, the most provoking.

But to return :—After the Whigs had long deliberated what Course to take for extricating the City from such numerous Difficulties, and for setting themselves free from such a mortifying Subjection to their fellow Citizens, they at last resolved to apply to a Gentleman, whom they all knew by Character to be the very Person they wanted ; tho' few, very few had personal Acquaintance with him. He had distinguished himself, among many other Instances, by moving for, and supporting a Bill for naturalizing foreign Protestants, and by opposing a * famous Act, which

* The Marriage Act.

he judged to be unfavourable to Population. In the Course of the first he had been applied to by the Whigs of *Bristol* to present their Petition in its Favour. He had been equally forward and distinguished in the Bills for opening the Levant, and *African* Trade, and in his Attempts to free *Hudson's Bay* from a pitiful monopolizing Company. In all these Measures he had been also applied to from *Bristol*, with Directions to their Agents in *London* to be guided and governed by his Advice. He had, singly and unapplied to, opposed a Bill for importing *French* Wines in foreign Bottles, moved for by the Earl of *HILLSBOROUGH*, seconded by Mr. *FOX*, countenanced by the Ministers, and vehemently pressed by all the *fine Gentlemen* of the House of Commons: which upon his single Speech, was refused the usual Indulgence of being brought in and read a first Time. In short his established Character was, "That he was a Man
 " of Knowledge, and great oratorical Powers, which
 " he chose chiefly to exert in Behalf of those great
 " national Points, Population, Freedom of Trade
 " and Extention of Commerce; that he was a
 " continual and a successful Advocate for the Out-
 " Ports, when their own Members remained
 " silent, never failing to oppose the monopolizing
 " Schemes of the City of *London*; and that he was
 " heard with peculiar Pleasure and Attention,
 " when speaking on his favourite Topics of Trade
 " and Navigation. It was also further observed
 " concerning him, that he was fixt and steady in
 " his Principles, intrepid in his Undertakings,
 " sincere in his Attachments, and most indefati-
 " gable to serve his Friends: And, to crown all,
 " that he was a Favourite both with the King,
 " and with his Ministers, by whom he was ap-
 " pointed a Lord of the Treasury."

This Gentleman was therefore invited by a numerous Party of the Citizens to come to *Bristol*, to stand a Candidate at the approaching Election, as he was before by the Town of *Liverpool*. But tho' they (the *Bristolians*) wanted his Support and Assistance so very much; though they also knew that he stood in no Need of theirs, having a Borough of his own, and a most ample Fortune; yet when they came to Explanations and to settle Preliminaries, they proposed to stipulate with him for a very large Sum of Money towards defraying the Expenses of a Contest. This Treatment, by degrading him into the Rank of a common Adventurer, or mere Borough-Hunter, was not likely to inspire him with any favourable Ideas of the Proposers. And it is easy to conceive, that a Man of his Spirit, Fortune, and Independence did not hesitate to reject the Proposition with some Degree of Indignation. The Whigs had then no other Alternative, but either to submit to his own Terms, or to seek for another Candidate and Protector, or to continue in Subjection to the same Party, who had so long oppressed them. Another Candidate equal to him in Abilities, Influence, and Power was not easily to be found. In consequence of which a Deputation of some of their principal Merchants was sent to him in *London*, to apologize for what was past, and to offer him a *Carte blanche* for the future. The Manner of his *Canvas*, after he engaged to stand, many of us can well remember. And I will add, that there was not a Person then so blind, or so partial, but both saw and acknowledged, that the happy Termination of the Contest was greatly owing, both to his extensive Interest, and also to his engaging personal Address. Among other Arguments then successfully urged both by himself

himself, and by his Friends, one, which had the greatest Effect, was this, that the Whig-Party did not seek for Victory, but Independence; therefore would be content with one Member only: Consequently that all the Disturbances given to the Peace of this City, and all the Animosities, Rancour, and Distractions occasioned thereby, were entirely to be laid to the opposite Party, for not consenting to so reasonable a Proposal. We have since seen, how well some Whigs remembered this Doctrine, when it came to their own Turn to practise it.

But whatever others might do, Mr. NUGENT always chose to act an uniform, consistent Part: Immediately on his Election, he declared that from hence-forward he would consider himself to be, as in Duty bound, the common Representative of all, tho' he was elected by one Party only. And when the Whigs on the Death of Mr. RICHARD BECKFORD, set up another Candidate, viz. Mr. now Earl SPENCER, contrary to the Declaration they had so lately made; it is well known, that Mr. NUGENT disapproved and discountenanced that Measure. Nor could it surprise those who knew, as many did, that at his own Election, he had refused the pressing Solicitations of his then over-zealous Friends to admit his Son, the late Colonel NUGENT, to be his Colleague: He stood single, and was then NUGENT *only*: He went further, and expressed his Wishes, towards the Close of that Election, when the Balance could be cast by his Party in Favour of either of the two opposing Candidates, that it should be made favourable to him who was most agreeable to the adverse Side.

The second Contest ending, as it ought, in the Defeat of the Whigs, they, taught and humbled by the Event, and the Tories observing numberless Instances of Mr. NUGENT's Fairness, Integrity,

and Impartiality, Animosities on both sides subsided, and a Reconciliation ensued amongst the Citizens, which led to a solemn Agreement between the Agents of both Parties, that the Candidate to be named by one, should be supported by the other, during three successive Parliaments; which Compact was universally acquiesced in, and acknowledged by five unanimous Elections and Re-elections of Mr. NUGENT, named by the Whigs, and by two Elections, one of Sir JARRETT SMITH, the other of Mr. BRICKDALE, named by the Tories. One Parliament still remained to complete the Term of that Agreement, when a great Majority of the Whigs departed from their Engagement, and, naming at first two Candidates, named a Third upon Lord Clare's withdrawing from a Contest in which he was sure of success.—What his Motives were require no Explanation.

I shall now return to our late noble Representative, in that Character which he invariably maintained from the Day of his first Election, “The unwearied Advocate for the Freedom of Trade, the faithful Representative and Protector of the City of *Bristol*, the zealous Promoter of its internal Prosperity, and a generous and impartial Benefactor to its distressed and decayed Citizens.”

During a twenty Years Representation, he had many Opportunities of displaying himself under each of these Descriptions. Let us therefore see, what he did, and how he acted, on such a Variety of Occasions.

It would be endless to recount all the Laws in which he bore a principal Part during this long Period: But some there are, which so strongly bear his Mark and Signature, that it would be flagrant Injustice not to mention them at the present Juncture.

ture. His grand System ever was, to provide Plenty of Food for the Poor, and Plenty of Work for the Industrious. With this View he was ever watchful over the price of Corn, that Staff of Life, Therefore whenever the rate began to rise above a moderate Pitch, he used to propose first to stop the Stills at Home, and then the Exportation Abroad, and last of all to admit of an Importation *Duty free*. And as the private Interest of a few Individuals, and the imaginary Interests of landed Gentlemen, often led them to oppose these salutary Measures, (so that he could obtain only *temporary* Prohibitions, or *temporary* Admissions for a very short Space of Time) he has been known to have solicited, and to have obtained, through Dint of Importunity and Perseverance, two Bills in the same Session for stopping the Distillation of Corn, and two more for preventing the Exportation of it. The like Difficulties he had frequently to struggle with, and at last overcame in respect to the Admission of live Stock from *Ireland*, also of Salt Provisions, Butter, Lard, and Tallow from the same Country, Rice and other Eatables from *America*, and at last Corn and Flour from every Country with which we had any Intercourse. Such a Number of Taxes, all on the immediate Necessaries of Life, were all taken off, principally by the Care and Diligence, the Interest, Influence, and Address of one Man.

Next to a Plenty of Food, his constant Aim was to provide Plenty of Materials for Labour and Industry, wherever it was in his Power so to do. Here therefore the famous Bill for importing Bar-Iron from *North America* must occur to the Mind of every Person intelligent in these Matters. The Obstinacy of the Iron Masters, and of some Country Gentlemen, Proprietors of Woods, in opposing this Bill, was almost incredible. And many
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of those, who now appear to be the warmest Partizans for *North-America*, in Opposition to the ancient and *legal* Claims of the Mother Country, were at that Juncture the loudest in their Exclamations against the Colonies, when an *American* Interest seemed (tho' it only seemed) to clash with their own. However, through the indefatigable Zeal of Mr. NUGENT, the Bill succeeded in Spite of all Opposition both of the City of *London**, of the Iron Masters, and of the Proprietors of Wood Lands. And the passing of it into a Law was attended with such *fortunate* Circumstances, as the sagacious Author himself (it must be frankly acknowledged) could not then foresee. The Iron Masters were greatly alarmed at the Event, perhaps as much as if their All had been at Stake. And therefore they resolved to renew those Experiments, which had so often failed for upwards of Sixty Years preceding; Experiments, I mean, for making Bar Iron with Coke or Coal Cinders, instead of Wood Charcoal. After various Trials, they at last hit upon a proper Method of coking Coal; and the Quantity of Bar Iron now made with Coke or Coal Cinders, instead of Wood-Charcoal (Iron as good as any for coarse Work) is become great beyond Imagination; at the same Time that the Quantity of Bar Iron imported from *America* for Goods of a superior Quality, is increasing every Year. And thus there is obtained a double national Advantage by the good Effects of one single, but *truly patriotic* Act of Parliament. The Iron Manufacture is now grown, and is still growing, to be one of the most considerable and extensive in the whole Kingdom; and the City of *Bristol* is particularly benefited in every

* Before the Passing of this Law, the Importation of Bar Iron from *America* was confined to *London* only.

Respect,

Respect, both by the Imports, and Exports of Iron, and of Iron Manufactures.

Another Instance of Mr. NUGENT's Care both to provide raw Materials, and also of his Vigilance in preventing the Monopolizing of them by the City of *London*, was visible in the Case of the Bounty upon Indico. He strongly concurred in granting a large Bounty on the Importation of this useful Ingredient for Dying, in order to encourage its Growth and Cultivation in the Colonies. The *London* Merchants, Members of the House of Commons, did the like: But mark the difference of their Views! The *Londoners* did it with a view of confining the Bounty to such Indico, as should be imported only into the Port of *London*: By which Measure they would inevitably have monopolized the whole Commodity to themselves, together with every Article dependent on it: And the Growth and Cultivation of it must necessarily have been cramped in the Colonies. But altho' their Plot was so artfully disguised under the plausible Pretence of Zeal to prevent Frauds and Impositions, that their Scheme was on the Point of succeeding, Mr. NUGENT detected their Artifices, exposed their real Views to the House, and set forth the Injury which would be done thereby, not only to *Bristol* and the other Out-Ports, but also to the Nation in general, and to the Colonies in particular.

Something similar to this Affair happened more than once in the Case of Trading to the Coast of *Africa*: Several Attempts were made by the late Mr. (WILLIAM) BECKFORD and others to confine this Trade to a joint-stock Company: And as often as they were made, so often were these Attempts defeated thro' the Vigilance of Mr. NUGENT.

In short, it would be tedious to recount every Instance of this Kind. Suffice it to say, once for all, That whenever any Schemes were carrying on to engross Sugars, or Tobacco, or any other Commodity, *under Colour of Law*; or whenever any undue Preference was attempted to be given to the Port of *London*; Mr. NUGENT was ever on the Watch, acting the Part of a faithful Sentinel to the Out-Ports in general, and to the City of *Bristol* in particular, by giving the Alarm, and putting them on their Guard. Mr. NUGENT (who soon afterwards was, I think, created Lord CLARE) was one of the Original Planners and Conductors of the Bill for establishing Free Ports in the *West-Indian* Islands. Some respectable Merchants, to whom this Scheme, whilst in Embrio, was first communicated, expressed their Approbation of it in the highest Terms, but at the same Time they thought it impossible he should succeed, on Account of so many Difficulties in the Way. But notwithstanding all this, the Representative for *Bristol* did succeed at last: And the Custom-House Books both in *Great Britain*, and in the Colonies, where there are any kept, can tell the Advantage of it.

The iniquitous and destructive contraband Trade carried on by the Isle of *Man*, particularly prejudicial to the *African* Trade of *Bristol*, from the exclusive Advantages which it gave to *Liverpool*, had long been the Object of Mr. NUGENT's Attention and Enquiries. With a View to remedy the various Mischiefs produced by a Nest of Outlaws and Smugglers, who from the Center of the Channel infested *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, he employed Captain LUKE MERCER, of the City of *Dublin*, who was perfectly Master of the Subject, to prepare Materials for this Purpose, which he communicated

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to the late Mr. GRENVILLE, then first Lord of the Treasury, who at his Desire sent for that Gentleman, and consulted with him upon forming the Plan soon after carried into Execution by that able and honest Minister.

One Instance more, and then I shall have finished this Part of Lord CLARE's Parliamentary Merit: I reserved it for the last, because it is the last Bequest of our late expiring Representative in the Close of the last Parliament. He, I may safely venture to appeal to all the Bankers of *Bristol*, was the sole Instrument of rejecting in the last Session a Bill framed by the Bankers of *London*, and supported by all their Interest, for the laudable Purpose of bringing to their Shops all the deposited Money of *Great-Britain*, to the total Destruction of the Banking Business in *Bristol*, and all other Towns except the Metropolis, and the Stagnation of Manufacture and Commerce unenlivened and unfed by Money or Credit, all to be swallowed up in that devouring Vortex.

Besides the public Laws, to which I have confined my Recital, in which the Nation in general partook with *Bristol* of the Benefits resulting from the Labours of their joint Representative, there are many others derived from the same Source beneficial to *Bristol* only: Such were the Acts for rebuilding the Bridge, and for making several Avenues and Openings in different Parts of the Town: The Acts for establishing a nightly Watch, for taking down the Signs, for widening, opening, cleansing, lighting, and new-paving the Streets; with some others of a like Nature.

Next to the Relation which our late excellent Representative bore to us in his senatorial Capacity, we are now to view him in the more private,

but not less endearing Character of our Protector, Patron, and Benefactor.

During the War he more eminently distinguished himself as our *Guardian* and *Protector*. Not one Port in the three Kingdoms was so well, or so constantly provided with Convoys and Protections, as the Port of *Bristol*. Indeed this Predilection became a Proverb among seafaring and mercantile People; and almost all other Ports and Places beheld it with Envy and Repining. Some there are who remember these Favours with Gratitude. One Gentleman in particular lately assured me, that during the War, he had saved above 1000l. a Year by Convoys only.

In respect to Benefactions, from Lord CLARE's private Purse, these have kept pace with his other good Deeds. As a Lover of Order, Sobriety, and Industry, he was ever averse from those Expences, previous or subsequent to an Election, which produce Drunkenness, Riot, and Idleness; and as an Enemy to Corruption he never bribed an Elector: He neither bought, nor sold a Seat in Parliament. Chosen six Times by the unpurchased Votes of the Citizens of *Bristol*, he as frankly gave his unpurchased Interest to his Successors at *St. Marys*, where almost every House is his Property. But altho' he grudged a drunken Treat to the Populace of *Bristol*, he did not spare Expence for laudable Purposes. He gave large Donations to the Infirmary, to the Church in *King's Wood*, the Bridge, and to the Library: He was the largest private Subscriber to the New Street, now called *Clare-Street* after his Name; and was the first to offer a Reward of some Hundred Pounds for discovering the Murderers of Mrs. RUSCOMBE. In respect to the Poor in general; at one Time he gave a large Sum for
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the Importation of a Cargo of Wheat, to be distributed among them. The Ship indeed was taken by the Enemy; but his intended Charity was not the less. At another Time he proposed a Bounty on the Importation of Grain into the Port of *Bristol*: The Magistrates approved of and joined cordially in the Measure: So that the City of *Bristol* (instead of being itself supplied from the inland Counties) became the Granary for supplying both the Western Parts of *England*, and also the Southern Parts of *Wales*, which otherwise might have felt a severe Famine. He had likewise planned a similar Scheme for the Importation of Salt Provisions, and for making the City of *Bristol* a Kind of Magazine for the adjacent Counties. This appears from his excellent Letter addressed to Mr. MAYOR, dated *November 23, 1767*. In Support of which Plan, he offers the liberal Contributions of his Purse, as well as his Advice. But, for some Reason or other, this benevolent Scheme did not take Effect. As to fresh Provisions, he joined heartily in a Scheme proposed to him of rendering them cheaper by private Subscriptions. Lastly, as he had so often been the Means of supplying the Poor with Food of various Kinds, he likewise, at a bitter inclement Season, gave liberally towards supplying them with Coals; altho' for some Time the Name of the Donor remained concealed.

In respect to his *private Charities* I shall say nothing particularly or personally about them. Certain it is, that he gave munificently to many distressed Persons and Families on extraordinary Emergencies, and that he allowed stated Pensions to others.

The last good Office, which Lord CLARE had an Opportunity of doing for his Constituents, while he continued to represent the City of *Bristol*,
D happened

happened about three Months ago. And as this Circumstance exhibited a Scene of Humanity and Benevolence, worthy, not only of the general Applause, but also of public *Imitation*, I will gratify the Reader by a Recital of it.

LORD CLARE, in the Month of *September*, after a narrow Escape from Shipwreck, in his intended Passage from *Cork* to *Dublin*, was driven into the Port of *Padstow* in *Cornwall*. As soon as he landed, tho' much fatigued and very sick, yet having heard, that a ship laden with Sugars was cast away on the Coast about 15 Miles distant, he dispatched an Officer with as many Men as he could muster (between 20 and 30) to protect her from the Violence of those Barbarians of the Country, who were assembled in great Numbers to seize on their Prey. To this Purpose he offered ample Rewards to all who should assist the soldiers in the same good Work; and he particularly summoned his own Tenants in the Neighbourhood to join in the Protection of the distressed, and the Preservation of their Property. By these vigorous Measures, much of the Ship and Cargo was saved from Pillage. She proved to be a very valuable one; and belonged to Persons of Note in *Bristol*.

With this remarkable Scene of Goodness, and Generosity ended LORD CLARE's Parliamentary Connections with our City: For the Parliament was soon after dissolved. And what happened since had better be forgot (if it *can be* forgot) than repeated. However, as the Officer, whom his Lordship employed on this Occasion, discharged his Duty in a very exemplary Manner, LORD CLARE * not only himself recommended him to the

* His Lordship presented a Recommendation of the Officer to the Secretary at War, signed by the principal Gentlemen of *Cornwall*.

Favour of his Superiors ; but also, on his Lordship's Arrival in *Bristol*, requested the Magistrates and Merchants to interest themselves in his Behalf: Which, we may take for granted, will have a proper Effect

And now, if I might presume to suggest any Thing farther, to render this affecting Transaction still more memorable,---It would be this,---Humbly to request his Lordship to make his own private Conduct in this Affair, the Model of a Bill for a public Law, *mutatis mutandis*, to prevent the horrid, and worse than piratical Practice of plundering Ships, when wrecked on the *English* Coast ; a Practice, to our Shame and Confusion be it spoken, more prevalent and bare-faced in this Country, than in any other Part of *Europe*.

After a Review of all these Things, it is not to be wondered at, that Lord CLARE's Ardour and Success in the Service of *Bristol* should be, as they are, acknowledged by all, even by those who would gladly with-hold the Tribute of Praise due to his Merit ; and that his more zealous Friends should ascribe to his Services a large Proportion of the growing Prosperity of *Bristol*, visibly and rapidly increasing within that Period, beyond what was ever experienced in the same Number of Years. Exports and Imports almost doubled, Quays and Docks again and again enlarged, yet still too small for her present Shipping ; private Houses and public Edifices built, rebuilt, or beautified ; Bridges erected, Streets opened, paved, and lighted ; more numerous and splendid Equipages encreasing every Day ; and, in short, Wealth in every Respect rolling in to her Port with a swelling Tide :---These Things certainly mark that happy *Æra*, when no public Disaster happened to deform the Scene, or to sour, as it often does, the Minds

of Men, against their best Friends and Benefactors, and incline them to wish for Change. Yet with all these Circumstances, favourable to Lord CLARE's Popularity, it is truly surprizing, that in the Course of upwards of twenty Years, during which Time Lord CLARE was intrusted with the Nomination to every Place and Employment in the Disposal of Government, within the City of *Bristol*, a very few Instances excepted, still fewer Complaints, if any, have been made by disappointed Candidates or their Friends, of undue Preferences given to their successful Competitors. His Lordship hath escaped one of two the most disagreeable Circumstances frequently attending the Dispensation of Favours, *Dissatisfaction*, and *Ingratitude*. The Saying of a great King upon this Subject is recorded in History, that whenever he disposed of a Place, he made many discontented, and one ungrateful. It would have been too much for Lord CLARE to hope to escape both these Consequences: He therefore was satisfied with preventing Clamour and Complaint, by preferring those to Offices of Business, who were best qualified for them, and, as such, had obtained the previous Approbation of one, *whose Integrity and Knowledge he could securely trust*; and by providing for others of blameless Character, whom Age, Infirmary, or undeserved Misfortunes in Trade rendered most worthy of an Asylum in fine-cure Places, assigned by the Humanity of Government for the Relief and Support of such Men.

Persons under these several Descriptions were sure of a ready, and, in most Instances, a successful Advocate in Lord CLARE. Ingratitude he, no Doubt, met with, and chiefly from those, and the Friends of those, who, in the Discharge of their official Duties, did least Credit to his Appointment. But however heavy that disgraceful Charge
justly

justly falls upon some, there are those who, under great Obligations, have more than repaid them in his Estimation, by their Abilities, Integrity, and every Return of cordial Friendship; and many, who never received, because they never applied for any Favours, have continued, or become, from strenuous Adversaries, some of his staunchest and most faithful Friends. Under the last Part of this Description may be ranged almost the whole Body of Citizens, called Tories at Lord CLARE's first Election.

In Confirmation of his impartial Attention to Merit, it is observable, for the Honour of his Choice, and in Praise of his late Constituents, that altho' it must be confessed, all have not proved themselves equally able and diligent in Office, and altho' all recommended by him were either *Bristol-Men*, or who bore some relation to *Bristol*, not one hath suffered from the many strict enquiries into their Conduct, which proved fatal to some of their Fellows, recommended by other Patrons from other Counties, before Lord CLARE represented *Bristol*. In these Instances he never could be prevailed on, by some of his most considerable Friends, to intercede for the Betrayers of their Trust, always declaring that every other Consideration must give way to the Interest of the fair Trader, and of the Public Revenue. I will add another Circumstance, as rarely to be found in the Rank of Patrons as any I have as yet mentioned: He never was charged with a Breach of Promise. He indeed seldom did promise, not even when he intended, and knew he could grant what was requested: But when the Contrary happened to be the Case, he was so averse from giving false Hopes, by using ambiguous Words, whence more might be inferred than he meant, or could perform, that he expressly discouraged

discouraged every Expectation with which unsuccessful Suitors often wish to deceive themselves, and are but too frequently led into that dear bought Indulgence by general Expressions of Kindness, which the most scrupulous Observers of positive Promises are too apt to make use of.

A Stranger, ignorant of what hath passed at the last Election for *Bristol*, reading thus far, if he believes what he hath read, will, no Doubt, conclude that Lord CLARE, however willing to retire, after twenty Years of laborious Service, to a Situation of less Business, hath, even in his own Despite, been again unanimously chosen. But, what will be his Surprise! at being informed that Lord CLARE had again made a Tender of his Services, that he petitioned his late Constituents for a Renewal of their Favour, but found himself obliged to retire from a Contest, in which he was considered by many of his old Friends only as their *second* Object, and could only hope for Success at the Expence of his Honour, by departing with them, from an Agreement under which he had been five Times unanimously chosen.

It would not be just to range in the *same* Predicament, all who by their Conduct necessitated Lord CLARE to retire. A wanton, unprovoked Breach of Faith deserves very different Treatment from a hasty Measure of Resentment, into which many were hurried, and misled by a Tale forged by their false Brethren, that the Tories had offered to join with Mr. CRUGER's Friends against Lord CLARE, and were rejected. Had the Fact been true, it would have justified, even in Lord CLARE's Opinion, the Conduct of those who were deceived: And it was so strongly asserted, that until the Falsehood was detected by undeniable Proof, Lord CLARE was himself staggered.

Having

Having thus separated Lord CLARE's *real*, from his pretended Friends, I will now take Notice of the Causes of Dislike urged against him by his *avowed* Enemies; Lord CLARE is a Place-Man;—It is true; And if all Place-Men should be excluded from Parliament; if those who are favoured by our *King*, are by that very Circumstance rendered *unfit* to be ever trusted by the *People*; if a Man qualified to sit at the Board of Treasury, and to preside at the Board of Trade, be an improper Representative of a great Trading City; if the House of Commons ought to be filled with Men of no experience in Business; (for even Patriots do not wish that every State Department should be stripped of Knowledge and Abilities in order to furnish St. STEPHEN's Chapel); If all these Things ought to be, ---Then indeed Lord CLARE is one of the least fit Men in *England* to represent *Bristol*. However it is somewhat unlucky for the Consistency of *Bristol* Patriots; that, with all his political Sins upon his Head, he was chosen five Times *unanimously* their Representative, and once after a Contest attended with Expence nearly equal to what was incurred at the last Election; which, we know, was undertaken with no other View, but merely to undo all that before had been done in his Favour. Here therefore our Patriots will exult: The Streams of Patriotism will again run, as they did before his Time, clear and undefiled through the fair Channel of Opposition. They were then indeed hungry and unfertilizing Waters; but when *Great Britain* shall submit to her Colonies, and when *North America*, freed from other Monopolies which the Mother Country now claims, shall bountifully pour in her political Creeds upon us exclusive of all other European Markets, then, but not until then, shall the Patriots of *Bristol* be enriched with a Return of those

those Benefits, which they frequently submitted to receive, tho', no doubt, with many heart-felt Scruples, from Lord CLARE's polluted Hands.

This leads me to another Complaint loudly preferred against him : He opposed the Repeal of the Stamp-Act, and he still perseveres in asserting the Sovereign Authority of the Legislature of *Great Britain* over her Colonies. But here again the same unlucky Circumstance returns : He hath been twice chosen *unanimously* since, without having manifested any Signs of his Repentance for his Transgression. Nay, those who thought they had suffered most by that Act, have not only forgiven him, but are some of his warmest and sincerest Friends, from a Conviction that he acted upon Principles which justify a Sacrifice of the Interest of even such Friends to the Good of the whole Community. They saw him prove his Sincerity by a previous voluntary Resignation of a very lucrative Office, under an Administration whose Sentiments in the *American* Contest he could not approve, altho' he was far from being an Enemy to their Persons. May I not add, that many of his Friends at *Bristol*, who had thought they should be benefitted by a Repeal of the Stamp-Act, were soon after convinced, and are every Day since more convinced, that Lord Clare was right, and they were mistaken?

But be it as it may, he was then no Placeman : And if it should be urged by the Patriots of *Bristol*, that he resigned from Despair of being permitted to remain in Office, and that he went into Opposition with the Hope of forcing his Way back, let them, in Tenderness to their own Leaders and Friends, be cautious how they account for Resignations and Oppositions by such Motives, lest they should countenance a Doctrine fatal to the Purity of opposing Patriots.

Fresh

Fresh Matter of Complaint hath however arisen since against Lord CLARE: He hath denied the Authority of a very small, and then inconsiderable, Number of his Constituents, to bind him to Obedience by their Instructions. I confess the Charge, and refer the Citizens of *Bristol* to the honest, constitutional, and spirited Passage in Mr. BURKE'S Speech from the Hustings at *Bristol*, relative to Instructions, for more than a Vindication of Lord CLARE'S Opinion.

I think, I cannot better close this Review, than by presenting the Reader with such authentic Papers, as will speak for themselves:—Evidences these, so clear and convincing, that they will bear a stronger Testimony to the Truth of what is here advanced, than any Asseverations coming from a private Hand. I shall therefore give them in full Length according to their Dates; beginning with Lord CLARE'S Letter from *Bath*, when he took Leave of his Constituents.

To the Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, and Freemen, of the City of Bristol.

Altho' the supine Inactivity of some, and the infatuated Conduct of others, left me unassisted and deserted by many who called themselves my Friends, I owe to Justice, Honour, and Gratitude this public Declaration, that many respectable Bodies of Men, and very many Individuals remained faithful to their Professions, constant in their Friendships, and grateful for the Endeavours of an Old Servant, who, tho' no longer the chosen Representative, shall ever remain the warm and zealous Friend of *Bristol*.

Bath, Oct. 10, 1774.

CRAGGS CLARE.

A D D R E S S I.

At a numerous Meeting of the Society of Merchants of this City, at their Common Hall on Thursday the 10th of November,

It was unanimously voted and ordered,

“ That the Thanks of this Society should, in
 “ the most respectful Manner, be returned to the
 “ Right Hon. Lord Viscount CLARE, for the
 “ many important Benefits that the Commercial
 “ Interests of this City had, for a Series of Twenty
 “ Years, received by Means of his Lordship’s con-
 “ stant Attention, watchful Care, and powerful
 “ Protection, and that the Society hope it shall
 “ hereafter be favoured with his Lordship’s
 “ friendly Aid and Assistance.”

*The following is a copy of a letter, written by the
 Right Hon. Lord Viscount Clare, to Isaac Elton,
 jun. Esq; Master of the Society of Merchants of
 the city of Bristol.*

“ S I R,

“ I have had too many proofs of your friendship,
 to doubt of the satisfaction which you received at
 being desired by an unanimous vote of the society
 of Merchants, assembled in their Common-hall,
 to repeat those thanks, with which I have been
 often honoured by them, for my attention to the
 commercial interest of Bristol, during a series of
 years. Be pleased to present them with my ac-
 knowledgements, and assurances that the interest
 of Bristol shall ever be dear to me. I cannot bet-
 ter prove the sincerity of this promise, than by co-
 operating with those who assert and vindicate the
 right, inherent in the legislature of Great Britain,
 to retain and improve, by British laws, the com-
 mercial advantages, derived, and to be derived from
 her

her Colonies, in which Bristol is so deeply concerned; and to oblige them in a considerable proportion of taxes, which now lie unreasonably heavy upon the trade of Bristol, to contribute to their own defence and preservation. With these sentiments I have ever been invariably a friend to Bristol, and with every sentiment of true regard, I am,

S I R,

Your faithful and most obedient Servant,

C R A G G S C L A R E.

A D D R E S S I I.

At a Meeting of the Common Council, held at the Council-House on *Saturday* the 12th of *November* Inst. on the Motion of Mr. MAYOR.

It was unanimously agreed and ordered,

“ That the grateful and respectful Thanks of
 “ this Corporation be given to the Right Hon.
 “ Lord Viscount CLARE, for the many great and
 “ eminent Advantages this City has received,
 “ from his able and faithful Representation of it,
 “ for upwards of Twenty Years: In which,
 “ by his unwearied Diligence and steady Application to the Interest of his Constituents,
 “ he has rendered them Services too important
 “ and beneficial not to be remembered with the
 “ sincerest Gratitude; and that his Lordship be
 “ assured, that although his Unwillingness to involve this City in the Confusion and Mischief
 “ that unavoidably attend a contested Election,
 “ hath dissolved the Connection that so long and
 “ happily subsisted between us, yet we shall entertain the warmest Sentiments of Esteem, Gratitude, and Affection for him, who has on so
 “ many Occasions proved himself the sincere,
 “ steady, and zealous Friend of *Bristol*.”

The

The following is a copy of a Letter written by the Rts Hon. Lord Viscount Clare, to Sir Abraham Elton, Bart. Town-Clerk of the city of Bristol.

“ S I R,

“ I was favoured yesterday with your letter, communicating to me, by direction of the Common-council of the city of Bristol assembled in the Council-house, their unanimous resolution, conceived in a warmth of friendship, and strength of expression, flowing from their hearts, which shall ever remain impressed on mine.

“ The thanks with which they honour my past services, are more than are due even to the faithful zeal with which I endeavoured to serve Bristol, during a long course of years. But I owe their approbation to more exalted motives: they know my dutiful attachment to our most gracious Sovereign, and my inflexible resolution to co-operate in maintaining the sovereign authority of the legislature of Great Britain over her Colonies; essential to her rights and prosperity, and not less essential to the defence and preservation of those, who, could they for their sins be freed from a filial dependence upon their mother country, would soon fall into servitude under a foreign yoke: the fatal and insatuated resource of factions impatient of true liberty under legal government.

“ These have ever been the sentiments of a great majority of my late constituents. In these I have ever been their faithful Representative; and such I ever shall remain wherever I may be chosen to sit in Parliament.

“ Be pleased to communicate this letter to the Common-council of the city of Bristol, with my grateful thanks; and accept the sincere assurances of friendship and regard, with which I am,

S I R,

Your most humble, and obedient Servant,
CRAGGS CLARE,

To the above is subjoined a Letter that appeared in the London Chronicle of *February 2, 1775.*

To the PRINTER of the LONDON CHRONICLE.

S I R,

Bristol, Jan. 28, 1775.

“ The following Address was the 20th Instant transmitted to the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Clare, by the Right Worshipful Charles Hotchkin, Esq; Mayor of *Bristol*, signed by the following Persons, one Half of whom are said to possess Property to the Amount of more than Three Millions Sterling. I send you the Names alphabetically ranged, with the proper description of many of the Subscribers.

A Merchant of Bristol.

To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount CLARE,

Deeply impressed with a just Sense of Gratitude for the numerous, great, and important Services rendered by your Lordship to this City, during a wise, faithful, and vigilant Representation in three successive Parliaments; and most sincerely regretting the Event which at this Period has given Cause to your Lordship's declining any longer to represent us, we whose Names are hereunto subscribed, Gentlemen, Clergy, Merchants, and principal Traders, of the City of *Bristol*, do most respectfully beg Leave to return you our most unfeigned and hearty Thanks, for each and every Instance of your past Goodness; and to assure you, we shall ever continue to be, with the most lively Sentiments of Friendship, Affection, and Esteem,

Your Lordship's

Truly obliged and

Most obedient Servants,

CHARLES HOTCHKIN, Esq; Mayor.

Ames, Jeremiah, Esq; Alderman and Banker

Ames, Levy, Esq;

F

Anderfon,

Anderson, John, Esq; Merchant
 Atwood, G.
 Arnold, William
 Allifon, T. P.
 Alfton, Bar

B.

Baugh, Isaac, Esq; Alderman, and late Master of
 the Society of Merchants
 Bright, Henry, Esq; late Mayor, Merchant, and
 Banker
 Bridle, Robert, Esq;
 Baker, Slade, Esq; Merchant
 Brice, Edward, Esq; Merchant
 Baker, Jeremy, Esq; Merchant
 Bright, Lowbridge, Merchant
 Bright, Richard, Merchant
 Barry, Doctor, Rector of St. Peter's
 Broughton, Thomas, the Rev. of St. Mary Redcliff
 Berjew, John, Vicar of All Saints
 Baker, Innys
 Britten, Charles Score
 Barret, John
 Blannin, Nicholas
 Bagg, Stephen
 Berry, Samuel
 Bush, George
 Bower, William
 Bush, George, Merchant
 Bush, Robert
 Blackwell, Thomas
 Bowen, Edward
 Bayly, John
 Bonbonous, James
 Bettington, Edward

C.

Crofts, John, Esq; Merchant
 Clutterbuck, Richard, Esq;

Cowper,

Cowper, Lancelott, Merchant
 Casberd, Doctor, Vicar of St. Augustin's
 Camplin, John, Vicar of St. Nicholas
 Calcott, A. Vicar of Temple
 Chapman, Thomas, the Reverend
 Cave, John
 Chilcott, John, Merchant
 Collinson, Richard, the Reverend
 Camplin, John, the Rev. of St. Mary Port
 Cook, Abraham
 Cook, Isaac

D.

Durbin, John, Esq; Alderman
 Deane, Thomas, Esq; Alderman, Merchant, and
 Banker
 Durbin, John, Junior, Esq; Sheriff
 Daubeny, George, Esq;
 Daubeny, James, the Reverend
 Debatt, Da. Rector of Christ Church
 Davy, John, Rector of St. John's
 Davis, Mark, Esq; Merchant
 Davis, Mark, Jun. Merchant
 Daltera, James, Esq; Merchant, and late Master of
 the Society of Merchants
 Delpratt, Samuel, Merchant
 Denham, William, Merchant
 Daniel, William,
 Dyer, John
 Daniel, Thomas
 Day, John
 Dowell, John
 Delpratt, William, Jun.

E.

Elton, Sir Abraham, Bart. late Master of the So-
 ciety of Merchants
 Elton, Isaac, Esq; Alderman, Banker, and late
 Master of the Society of Merchants.

Elton, Isaac, Junior, Esq; Merchant, and late
Master of the Society of Merchants.

Elton, Edward, Esq;

Elton, William, Merchant

Edye, John, Banker

Eagles, William

Eagles, Thomas, Merchant

Ellford, John

Eames, John

Edwards, John

Easton, Thomas

F.

Farr, Richard, Esq; Alderman, Merchant, and
late Master of the Society of Merchants

Foy, Nathaniel, Esq; late Mayor, also late Master
of the Society of Merchants

Farrell, Joseph, Esq; Merchant

Farr, Thomas, Esq; Merchant, and late Master
of the Society of Merchants

Farr, Paul, Merchant, and Warden of the Society
of Merchants.

Fowler, John, Merchant and Banker

Freeman, John, Junior, Esq;

Frye, Cornelius

Ford, William

Forster, Joseph

Ford, John

G.

Gordon, Robert, Esq; Merchant, and late Mayor.

Gordon, John, Merchant

Griffiths, Thomas, Merchant

Gillam, Benjamin, Banker

Goddard, Thomas, the Reverend

George, William

Grove, K.

Gomonds, B.

Hobhouse,

H.

Hobhouse, John, Esq; Merchant
 Hart, William, Esq; late Master of the Society of
 Merchants
 Harris, Thomas, Esq; Merchant, and late Mayor
 Hill, James, Esq; Sheriff
 Harson, Daniel, Esq;
 Harmer, John, Esq;
 Hamilton, David, Merchant
 Houlton, Robert, Esq;
 Harford, J. Merchant
 Hobbs, Thomas, Merchant
 Hall, John
 Hillhouse, James
 Hutchinson, William
 Hale, Robert, Esq; Banker
 Harford, Charles
 Harmer, George
 Hale, William
 Hillicar, Ames
 Hall, Robert
 Morwood, Charles

J.

Jones, William, Esq; Merchant, and late Master
 of the Society of Merchants
 Jones, John, Merchant
 Jones, William Roger
 Jolliff, Richard
 Jolliff, William
 Jolliff, Thomas
 James William, Merchant

K.

King, Henry
 Keene, Thomas

L.

Laroche, James, Esq; Merchant, and Member in
 Parliament for Bodmyn

Lippincott,

Lippincott, Henry, Esq; Merchant
 Lovill, Robert, Merchant

M.

Mugleworth, Henry, Esq; Alderman
 Miles, William, Esq; Merchant
 Miller, Michael, Esq; Merchant
 Miller, Michael, Jun. Esq; Merchant
 Merlott, John, Esq;
 Munckley, Samuel, Esq; Merchant, Banker, and
 late Master of the Society of Merchants
 Miller, William, Esq; Banker
 Miller, William, Jun.
 Maskelyn, George, Merchant
 Meyler, Richard, Merchant
 Myerhoof, D. Merchant
 Maddox, John
 Moon, T.
 M'Jaggart, James, Merchant
 Masters, John
 Mills, J.

N.

Noble, John, Esq; Merchant
 Nicholas, Edward, Merchant
 Newmān, Samuel, Banker
 New, Ja. Vicar of St. Philip and Jacob
 Newman, Thomas, the Reverend

O.

Osborn, Jere.
 Ormorad, Laurencé

P.

Pope, Andrew, Esq; late Master of the Society of
 Merchants
 Powell, John, Merchant, and Warden of the So-
 ciety of Merchants
 Prankard, Richard
 Pyne, Thomas

Powell;

Powell, J.
 Pedder, John, Merchant
 Piguenit, Isaac, Esq;
 Penrose, R. Vicar of St. Ewin's
 Prothero, Philip, Merchant

R.

Reed, James, Esq; Merchant and Banker
 Randolph, William, Merchant
 Reeve, William, late Master of the Society of
 Merchants
 Reeve, William, Jun.
 Reynell, Carew, the Reverend, of St. James
 Robbins, Thomas, the Reverend
 Rogers, James
 Reynolds, Thomas

S.

Smith, Sir Jarrit, Baronet, late Member in Par-
 liament for Bristol
 Smith, Morgan, Esq; Alderman and Banker
 Smith, Robert, Esq; Master of the Society of
 Merchants
 Smyth, John Hugh, Esq;
 Smyth, Thomas, Esq;
 Seyer, S. Rector of St. Michael's
 Smith, Charles, Merchant
 Smith, Thomas
 Sims, Thomas
 Stratton, Richard
 Salmon, Robert
 Strapland, Thomas
 Storey, William
 Speed, John
 Smith, James
 Smith, Richard
 Smith, Thomas
 Shurmur, William
 Schimeling, Lamb

G

Tyndall,

T.

Tyndall, Thomas, Esq; Banker
 Turner, William, Esq;
 Tucker, Dr. Rector of St. Stephen, and Dean of
 Gloucester

Taylor, Samuel
 Taylor, Daniel
 Taylor, James
 Taylor, Samuel, Junior
 Taylor, G. M.
 Tombs, Richard
 Thomas, James, Merchant
 Tandy, John
 Taylor, Daniel, Junior
 Teast, Sydenham
 Thurston, J.
 Thrall, Jacob

Trevillian, Maurice Ceely, Esq; Merchant
 V.

Vaughan, John, Esq; Merchant
 Vaughan, Richard, Merchant
 Vaughan, James, Banker

W.

Whatley, Edward, Esq; Alderman
 White, Stephen, Esq; Merchant
 Watts, Roger, Merchant
 Whitehead, Thomas, Banker
 Wraxhall, Nathaniel, Merchant
 Waterland, Henry, LL. D. Prebendary of *Bristol*
 Watkins, George
 Watkins, John
 Wilson, Joseph
 Wasborough, William
 Willmott, Samuel
 Worrall, Samuel, Banker
 Wansey, William
 Wood, Leighton

These

These are the most authentic and strongest Testimonies that can be borne to his Lordship's Perseverance in serving *Bristol*, from the first to the last Day of his Representation. These therefore will stand a MONUMENT OF THE GRATITUDE of the Gentlemen, Clergy, Merchants, and principal Traders, when, it is to be hoped, for the Honour of *Bristol*, it will be forgotten that Lord CLARE was forced to retire from their Service.

To the Gentlemen, Clergy, Merchants, and principal Traders of the City of Bristol.

“ GENTLEMEN,

THE Right Worshipful the Mayor of *Bristol* transmitted to me, by the last Post but one, the most respectable Testimonial of your Approbation of my Services, and your Concern for those Motives which induced me to relinquish the Honour of being re-elected, by you, your Representative in Parliament. You add the strongest Assurances of continuing to me the same Regard and Friendship with which you made me happy many Years.

“ The Number of Names subscribed to your Address renders it impossible for me to return my grateful Thanks to each in particular: Be therefore pleased to accept them in this general Publication of the Feelings of my Heart; and permit me, at the same Time, to express my Hopes, and offer my Prayers, that a Concurrence of Sentiments still more unanimous than that with which you honour me, may be manifested in Support of the Authority of the Legislature of Great-Britain over her Colonies

Colonies; from which alone can be derived a secure Permanency of those Advantages due by Law, and purchased with the Treasure and Blood of this Nation.

"I am, with Respect, Gratitude, and Affection,
GENTLEMEN,

"Your most faithful and devoted Servant,
Great George-Street, CRAGGS CLARE."

Jan. 30, 1775.

John Fogarty, Printer.

PRINTED BY

John Fogarty, Printer, at the Sign of the Crown, in the Strand, near the Theatre Royal, in the City of London.

E. L. N. I. S.

E. R. R. A. T. A.

Page 14, Line 8, for *Dubl'n* read *Bristol*.

Page 20, Line 4, dele *his*.

Page 21, Line 16, for *Asseverations* read *Assurances*.

